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SOME CUBAN SPECIES OF CERION.

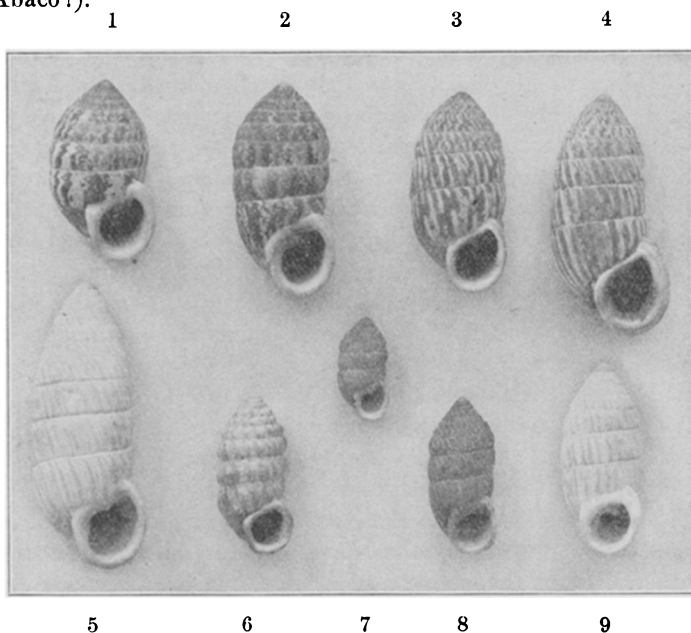
BY H. A. PILSBRY AND E. G. VANATTA.

Since the publication of our catalogue of this genus,¹ the following species have been described :

Cerion (Maynardia) niteloides Dall, Bull. Lab. Nat. Hist. State Univ. Iowa, IV, no. 1, p. 15, pl. 1, f. 2 (Dec., 1896). Water Cay, Salt Cay Bank, on the north side of Cuba near the western end of the Bahama banks.

Cerion pillsburyi Pils. & Van., these Proceedings, November 23, 1897, p. 366, f. 5. Gun Cay, Bahamas.

Cerion fordii Pils. & Van., Ibid, p. 365, f. 1, 2. Bahamas (Abaco?).



The forms herein described were received from Mr. F. E. Blanes and Prof. de la Torre, bearing manuscript names; which we were requested to publish. As they are forms of considerable interest

¹ Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci., Phila., 1896, p. 315.

and undoubted distinctness, so far as specific distinctions can be said to exist in *Cerion*, we present them as a further contribution to knowledge of this peculiar genus.

Since writing upon this topic in 1896, we have been unable to procure living or suitably preserved specimens of *Cerion* for anatomical investigation; but we have no reason to doubt that such study, when it becomes possible, will justify our reference of the genus to the family *Urocoptidae* (" *Cylindrellidae* " of authors).

Respecting the extraordinary plasticity of the shell under the force of varying circumstance, something was said in our former communication; but as it would seem from questions put to us by various conchological friends, the case was not stated strongly enough. We do not seek paradox when we say that frequently the differences between individuals of a species are greater than the differences between species; so wide is the swing of racial and individual variation.

Cerion torrei Blanes. Figs. 1, 2.

Shell cylindrical, obese, strong, rimate and perforate, the lower two or three whorls of approximately equal diameter, those above forming a rather short cone with sides diverging at an angle of 85° to 90° . Whorls 10-11, the earliest $1-2\frac{1}{2}$ white or corneous, several following finely and sharply striated, the remaining whorls nearly smooth; last whorl ascending in front, somewhat tapering below, and generally striated at the base. Brown, marbled with very irregular stripes and dots of white. Aperture short, showing a small short parietal tooth and a small columellar fold; peristome white, thickened and convex, reflexed and recurved, continuous, the parietal margin more or less calloused.

Alt. $23\frac{1}{2}$, greatest diam. 13, length of aperture 11 mm.

Alt. 28, greatest diam. $12\frac{1}{2}$, length of aperture 11 mm.

Alt. 24, greatest diam. $11\frac{1}{2}$, length of aperture 10 mm.

Port of Vita, Cuba (Francisco E. Blanes).

This species resembles *C. dimidiatum*, differing in being of less rude texture, less squarely obese form, higher terminal cone, no trace of a keel defining the base, etc.

It has the coloration of *C. vulneratum*.

Var. *ornatum* P. & V. Figs. 3, 4.

Similar in form to the longer specimens of *C. torrei*, but strongly and regularly ribbed throughout, the ribs on the cylindrical portion

1-2 mm. apart, and decidedly narrower than the intervals; parietal margin of peristome more elevated.

Vita, Cuba.

This looks like a distinct species, but is merely the costate form of the preceding. It is more slender than the ribbed form of *C. dimidiatum*, with finer ribs, continued upon the terminal cone, and there is no basal keel.

Cerion sueyrasi Blanes. Fig. 6.

Shell cylindrical, solid, rimate, the lower three whorls of about equal diameter, those above forming a rather short, obtuse cone. Whorls 10, the first smooth, next finely costulate, the rest *very convex*, coarsely and *sharply ribbed*, the ribs high, angular, 15 to 18 in number on the last whorl; *numerous rather irregular spiral striae* revolving about the middle of the lower two or three whorls. Color (of specimens some time dead when collected), creamy or fleshy white. Aperture small, with small teeth; peristome expanded, blunt, continued raised and straight across the parietal margin.

Alt. 21, diam. $8\frac{1}{2}$, length of aperture $7\frac{1}{4}$ mm.

Alt. 22, diam. 9, length of aperture 8 mm.

Vita, Cuba (Francisco E. Blanes).

A fourth member of the group of *C. scalarinum*, decidedly stouter in the spire than *C. scalarinum* Gundl. or *C. johnsoni* Pils. & Van., and differing from *C. felis* P. & V. in the weak development of the teeth.

Cerion incanum saccharimeta Blanes. Fig. 5.

Shell much larger than typical *incanum*, with long, tapering spire and blunt apex. Whorls 13, the last frequently irregularly costate. Alt. 38, diam. 13, length of aperture 12 mm.

Sugar Loaf Key, Florida (F. E. Blanes).

Cerion crassiusculum Torre. Figs. 7, 8.

Shell rimate, cylindrical, rather solid, lusterless, light brown or yellowish-brown throughout. Latter three whorls of equal diameter, or wider above, those above tapering in a short cone with straight or slightly concave outlines; apex obtuse, rather mammillar. Sculptured with rather close, regular, strong riblets, which are somewhat oblique, varying from as wide to half as wide as the interstices, and about 28 in number on the antepenultimate whorl; becoming obsolete or partially so on the last whorl. Whorls nearly 10, but slightly convex, the last slightly ascending in front.

Aperture vertical, with a very small, short parietal tooth, and moderate axial fold; peristome blunt, expanded, subreflexed, the terminations distant, connected by a moderate parietal callus.

Alt. $20\frac{1}{2}$, diam. $8\frac{1}{2}$, length of aperture $7\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Alt. 20, diam. $9\frac{1}{2}$, length of aperture 8 mm.

Cayo Juin, Baracoa, Cuba (Prof. de la Torre, F. E. Blanes).

There is a small form, alt. 13, diam. $6\frac{1}{2}$, length of aperture 5 mm., having all the characters of the larger except that there are only 8 whorls.

The last whorl in this species is half the total length of the shell or a trifle more, and upon it the ribs are weak or wholly obsolete. Compared with *C. incrassatum microdon*, it differs in the concave instead of convex outlines of the terminal cone, and the color. It differs from *C. tenuilabre* in the coarser sculpture; and from both in the comparatively smooth last whorl.

Cerion sanzi Blanes. Fig. 9.

Shell rimate, solid and strong, cylindric-conic. White, very sparsely and inconspicuously mottled with grayish or brown; lusterless, the ribs rather glossy. Lower three whorls of about equal diameter, those above forming a rather long cone terminating in an obtuse apex. Whorls 10–11 $\frac{1}{2}$, the first smooth, the rest ribbed; ribs rather strong, narrow, separated by far wider interstices, 20–27 on the penultimate whorl, frequently in part obsolete on the last whorl, split on the base into an irregular striation. Aperture irregularly oval, the throat brown; peristome reflexed, more or less thickened, the terminations joined by a heavy parietal callus. Parietal tooth deep within, strong and rather long; columellar tooth well marked.

Alt. 27, diam. $11\frac{1}{2}$, length of aperture 10 mm.

Alt. $23\frac{1}{2}$, diam. $10\frac{1}{2}$, length of aperture 9 mm.

Confites Key, Nuevitas, Cuba.

This species has considerable resemblance to *C. mumia*, but differs conspicuously in the strong development of the parietal fold, the inner termination of which is not visible from the aperture. In some specimens the interior of the aperture is mainly white, the brown appearing far within. In one shell of the type lot there is a small accessory denticle to the left of the main fold.